

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (Currently Amended): ~~An~~ A non-cleaving antisense oligonucleotide 12 to 30 nucleobases in length targeted and 100% complementary to a nucleic acid molecule encoding human apolipoprotein (a) (SEQ ID NO: 3), wherein said oligonucleotide specifically hybridizes with said nucleic acid molecule encoding human apolipoprotein (a) and inhibits the expression of human apolipoprotein (a), and

 wherein said oligonucleotide comprises at least one modification selected from the group consisting of a modified internucleoside linkage, a modified sugar moiety, and a modified nucleobase.

Claims 2-4 (Canceled)

Claim 5 (Previously Presented): The oligonucleotide of claim 1 wherein the modified internucleoside linkage is a phosphorothioate linkage.

Claim 6 (Canceled)

Claim 7 (Previously Presented): The oligonucleotide of claim 1 wherein the modified sugar moiety is a 2'-O-methoxyethyl sugar moiety.

Claim 8 (Canceled)

Claim 9 (Previously Presented): The oligonucleotide of claim 1 wherein the modified nucleobase is a 5-methylcytosine.

Claim 10 (Previously Presented): The oligonucleotide of claim 1 which is a chimeric oligonucleotide.

Claim 11 (Canceled)

Claim 12 (Previously Presented): A composition comprising the oligonucleotide of claim 1 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier or diluent.

Claim 13 (Original): The composition of claim 12 further comprising a colloidal dispersion system.

Claim 14 (Canceled)

Claim 15 (Previously Presented): A method of inhibiting the expression of human apolipoprotein (a) in cells or tissues comprising contacting cells or tissues *in vitro* with the compound of claim 1 so that expression of human apolipoprotein (a) is inhibited.

Claims 16-20 (Canceled).